

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A communications system, comprising:
 - a transceiver, comprising:
 - an interrupt request terminal; and
 - a communication port;
 - a host board, comprising:
 - an interrupt request line;
 - a communication bus;

wherein the interrupt request line is coupled to the interrupt request terminal to communicate an interrupt request, and the communication bus is coupled to the communication port to communicate data.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the transceiver is selected from the group consisting of an optical transceiver and a copper transceiver.
3. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
 - another transceiver, comprising:
 - another interrupt request terminal; and
 - another communication port;

wherein the interrupt request line is further coupled to said another interrupt request terminal to communicate another interrupt request, and the communication bus is further coupled to said another communication port to communicate other data.
4. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
 - another transceiver, comprising:

another interrupt request terminal; and

another communication port;

wherein the host board further comprises another interrupt request line, said another interrupt request line being coupled to said another interrupt request terminal to communicate another interrupt request, and the communication bus being further coupled to said another communication port to communicate other data.

5. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

another transceiver, comprising:

another interrupt request terminal; and

another communication port;

wherein the host board further comprises another interrupt request line and another communication bus, said another interrupt request line being coupled to said another interrupt request terminal to communicate another interrupt request, and said another communication bus being coupled to said another communication port to communicate other data.

6. A communications system, comprising:

a plurality of first transceivers each comprising an interrupt request terminal and a communication port;

a host board comprising an interrupt request line and a communication bus;

wherein the interrupt request line is coupled to the interrupt request terminal of each first transceiver to communicate an interrupt request, and the communication bus is coupled to the communication port of each first transceiver to communicate data.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the first transceivers are selected from the group consisting of optical transceivers and copper transceivers.

8. The system of claim 6, further comprising:

a plurality of second transceivers each comprising another interrupt request terminal and another communication port;

wherein the host board further comprises another interrupt request line, said another interrupt request line being coupled to said another interrupt request terminal of each second transceiver to communicate another interrupt request, and the communication bus being coupled to said another communication port of each second transceiver to communicate other data.

9. The system of claim 6, further comprising:

a plurality of second transceivers each comprising another interrupt request terminal and another communication port;

wherein the host board further comprises another interrupt request line and another communication bus, said another interrupt request line being coupled to said another interrupt request terminal of each second transceiver to communicate another interrupt request, and the said another communication bus being coupled to said another communication port of each second transceiver to communicate other data.

10. A method for communicating between transceivers and a host board, comprising:

receiving an interrupt request from one of the transceivers;

polling said one of the transceivers in response to the interrupt request.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the transceivers are selected from the group consisting of optical transceivers and copper transceivers.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said polling said one of the transceivers comprising polling a group of the transceivers that share one interrupt request line to the host board.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising handling an event that caused the interrupt request from said one of the transceivers.